

~~SECRET~~

TALKING POINTS
FOR
WILLIAM H. WEBSTER
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
BEFORE THE
EAST ASIA DIVISION CHIEFS OF STATION

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MARCH 15, 1988

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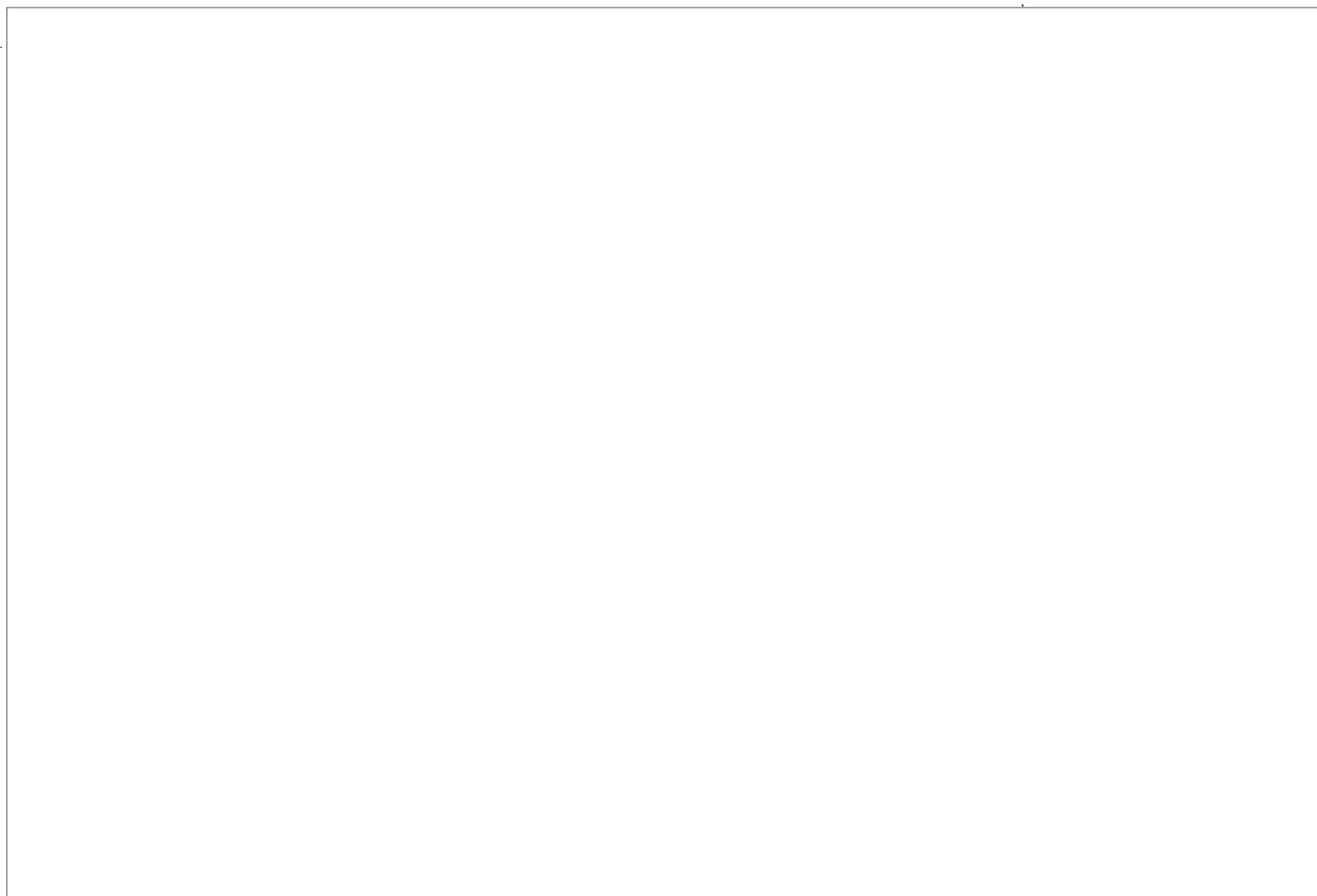
S E C R E T

INTRODUCTION

- IT IS A PLEASURE TO MEET WITH ALL OF YOU THIS MORNING.
- (YOU MIGHT WANT TO INCLUDE A PERSONAL REFERENCE TO YOUR TRIP THUS FAR AND TO HAVING SEEN EA CHIEFS OF STATION AT HEADQUARTERS LAST SEPTEMBER 23RD WHEN YOU ADDRESSED THEIR CONFERENCE).

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ISSUES AT HEADQUARTERS

- I'D LIKE TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT WE'VE BEEN DEALING WITH HERE AT HEADQUARTERS.

RELATIONSHIP WITH CONGRESS

- I RECENTLY SPOKE TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE RETIREES ASSOCIATION. THEY RECALLED THE DAYS WHEN:
 - NO CLASSIFIED PAPERS WENT FROM THE CIA TO EITHER BRANCH OF CONGRESS.
 - THE ONLY CLASSIFIED BRIEFINGS TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES WERE GIVEN BY THE DIRECTOR HIMSELF OR WITH THE DIRECTOR PRESENT.

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- THAT IS NOT OUR SITUATION TODAY.

-- TODAY FOUR CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES CLOSELY EXAMINE
THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES.

-- THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO SEE CLASSIFIED MATERIAL
FAR EXCEEDS THE ONE OR TWO OF THE PAST.

- I HAVE ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES FOR ALL WHO MUST BRIEF OR
TESTIFY ON THE HILL.

- I HAVE SPENT A FAIR AMOUNT OF TIME ON THE HILL LATELY,
MYSELF, EVEN AFTER IRAN-CONTRA.

-- I HAVE BEEN PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT:

- THE INF TREATY
- THE INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT ACT OF 1987, BETTER
KNOWN AS THE COHEN BILL AND THE HOUSE VERSION
KNOWN AS THE STOKES BILL
- THE NATIONAL SECURITY REFORM ACT OF 1987 (A LAW
WHICH WOULD ADD THE CIA TO THE LIST OF FEDERAL

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AGENCIES WHICH CURRENTLY HAVE A STATUTORY
INSPECTOR GENERAL.)

48 HOUR NOTIFICATION

- MY POSITION ON BOTH THE COHEN BILL AND THE STOKES BILL, LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE NOTIFICATION OF A SPECIAL ACTIVITY TO CONGRESS WITHIN 48 HOURS OF A PRESIDENTIAL FINDING, IS NO SECRET. I OPPOSE IT.
- SOME ALLOWANCE MUST BE MADE FOR THAT RARE CASE WHERE LIMITED DELAY IN CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION IS CRITICAL TO PRESERVE THE ABSOLUTE SECURITY OF AN OPERATION WHEN, FOR EXAMPLE, LIVES ARE AT STAKE.
- THESE BILLS ARE UNNECESSARY BECAUSE A NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION DIRECTIVE ALREADY REQUIRES THE NATIONAL SECURITY PLANNING GROUP TO REEVALUATE AT LEAST EVERY 10 DAYS, A DECISION TO DELAY CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION OF A GIVEN FINDING. ²

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SENATE BILL ON STATUTORY IG

- TWO WEEKS AGO, I TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESS ON LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ESTABLISH A STATUTORY INSPECTOR GENERAL.

-- MY POSITION IS THAT WE HAVE AN INSPECTOR GENERAL, AND WE ARE BEST SERVED BY AN INTERNAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

- SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW THAT I FACED A SIMILAR DEMAND FOR A STATUTORY IG WHEN I WAS DIRECTOR OF THE FBI.

-- I PERSUADED CONGRESS TO WAIT UNTIL I HAD A CHANCE TO IMPLEMENT MY PLANS TO RECONSTITUTE AND STRENGTHEN THE BUREAU'S INTERNAL INSPECTION CAPABILITIES.

-- I BELIEVE THE CONGRESS WAS SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS. I HOPE THAT THE SSCI WILL GIVE US THE SAME OPPORTUNITY HERE.

- A STATUTORY IG WILL NOT BY ITSELF SOLVE THE PROBLEM, AS PERCEIVED BY CONGRESS, OF A WEAK OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.

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-- THIS PROBLEM CAN ONLY BE SOLVED BY:

- GETTING HIGHLY QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO SERVE IN THE OFFICE
- BY MAKING IT CLEAR TO ALL EMPLOYEES THAT THEY ARE EXPECTED TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.

-- I AM CONVINCED THAT WE ARE NOW ON THE RIGHT TRACK IN THESE AREAS.³

MEETINGS WITH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES

- IN ADDITION TO TESTIFYING BEFORE CONGRESS, I MAKE IT A POINT TO MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF OUR OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES AT LEAST MONTHLY.

-- I DO THIS TO ESTABLISH A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH CONGRESS.

-- THIS IS SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS TO THE RELATIONSHIP THAT MANY OF YOU HAVE WITH YOUR AMBASSADORS. WHILE WE

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PROTECT SOURCES AND METHODS, WE PROVIDE INFORMATION
AND WE CANDIDLY RESPOND TO THEIR QUESTIONS.⁴

-- TRUTHFULNESS WITHIN OUR ORGANIZATION AND WITH THOSE
THAT OVERSEE OUR WORK IS NOT A NEW CONCEPT--IT IS ONE
DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE TRADITION OF THE CIA. TO UPHOLD
THAT TRADITION, I WILL:

- WORK FOR THE CLEAREST GUIDELINES WHICH WILL
PROTECT OUR EMPLOYEES.
- PROTECT ALL WHO OPERATE AGGRESSIVELY WITHIN THESE
GUIDELINES.

CONCLUSION

- I WOULD LIKE ONCE AGAIN TO COMMEND YOU FOR THE FINE WORK
YOU HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO IN SUPPORT OF THE AGENCY'S
MISSION.
- PERHAPS THERE ARE QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE FOR ME NOW.